acquire maſculine qualities. Still the regal homage which they receive is ſo intoxicating, that till the manners of the times are changed, and formed on more reaſonable principles, it may be impoſſible to convince them that the illegitimate power which they obtain, by degrading themſelves, is a curſe, and that they muſt return to nature and equality, if they wiſh to ſecure the placid ſatisfaction that unſophiſticated affections impart. But for this epoch we muſt wait —wait, perhaps, till kings and nobles, enlightened by reaſon, and, preferring the real dignity of man to childiſh ſtate, throw off their gaudy hereditary trappings: and if then women do not reſign the arbitrary power of beauty—they will prove that they have *leſs* mind than man.

I may be accuſed of arrogance; ſtill I muſt declare, what I firmly believe, that all the writers who have written on the ſubject of female education and manners, from Rouſſeau to Dr. Gregory, have contributed to render women more artificial, weak characters, than they would otherwiſe have been; and, conſequently, more uſeleſs members of ſociety. I might have expreſſed this conviction in a lower key; but I am afraid it would have

been the whine of affectation, and not the faithful expreſſion of my feelings, of the clear reſult, which experience and reflection have led me to draw. When I come to that diviſion of the ſubject, I ſhall advert to the paſſages that I more particularly diſapprove of, in the works of the authors I have juſt alluded to; but it is firſt neceſſary to obſerve, that my objection extends to the whole purport of thoſe books, which tend, in my opinion, to degrade one half of the human ſpecies, and render women pleaſing at the expence of every ſolid virtue.

Though, to reaſon on Rouſſeau's ground, if man did attain a degree of perfection of mind when his body arrived at maturity, it might be proper, in order to make a man and his wife *one*, that ſhe ſhould rely entirely on his underſtanding; and the graceful ivy, claſping the oak that ſupported it, would form a whole in which ſtrength and beauty would be equally conſpicuous. But, alas! huſbands, as well as their helpmates, are often only overgrown children; nay, thanks to early debauchery, ſcarcely men in their outward form—and if the blind lead the blind, one need not come from heaven to tell us the conſequence.